

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Harpersville Survey District Inventory Number: AL-VI-B-279
Address: MD 36 approximately 0.75 miles north of Lonaconing Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Lonaconing Zip Code: 21539 County: Allegany
USGS Quadrangle(s): Lonaconing
Property Owner: multiple Tax Account ID Number: _____
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): _____ Tax Map Number: _____
Project: MD 36 over Elk Lick Run Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration (S
Agency Prepared By: SHA
Preparer's Name: Melissa Hess Date Prepared: 08/04/2004
Documentation is presented in: MIHP form AL-VI-B-279
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: _____ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes
Site visit by MHT Staf ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The Harpersville Survey District is located in the Georges Creek Coal Region in the western portion of Allegany County. Harpersville is named for Mr. Bill Harper. In 1909, Harper built a frame house at what is now the northern end of a small, linear village, located approximately one and three fourths of a mile north of the town of Lonaconing and directly southwest of Gilmore (AL-VI-B-255). In the 1920s, Mr. Tom Carr dismantled a tannery in Gilmore and used the salvaged materials to construct a row of houses, which became known as Harpersville (Dorsey 1982: 3). Informal interviews with local residents revealed that the community is now generally referred to as part of Gilmore, though they are still familiar with the name Harpersville.

At the time of Harpersville's founding, the coal industry was approaching the end of its predominance as the shaping factor of life in the Georges Creek valley. Though coal production peaked in 1907, mining was still a viable means of employment in the 1920s. Most likely, the original inhabitants of Harpersville participated in the mining industry.

Harpersville consists of a row of thirteen dwellings and one former general store/saloon. All of the buildings in Harpersville set on the southeastern side of MD 36. The neighborhood is approximately 1,800 feet in length along MD 36 and approximately 300 feet in width.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended ☒
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

 ✓
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

2/3/05
Date


Reviewer, National Register Program

3/11/05
Date

200500054

MD 36 runs southwest to northeast through Harpersville. The road follows the path of Georges Creek, which it crosses and recrosses numerous times. At Harpersville, Georges Creek runs parallel to MD 36 to the southeast, forming a natural boundary across the backs of the properties. Tracks belonging to the CSX Railroad, originally the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad, run parallel to MD 36 to the northwest. While the property lots in Harpersville are flat, the surrounding terrain rises sharply. Harpersville has not been able to grow beyond its original boundaries.

All but one of Harpersville's structures are residential. Circa 1920, Mr. Bill Wynn established a general store and saloon that still sets in the middle of the row of dwellings (Dorsey 1982: 3). Currently, a pet store occupies the building. There is a large cement block structure next to the store.

Most of the village's structures are vernacular dwellings known as "block" houses, two story frame duplex structures that provided three or four rooms and sometimes a shed roof kitchen for their occupants. Many of the block houses have now been converted to single family use. There are several dwellings in Harpersville originally built as single family homes. All the dwellings are older than fifty years. The neighborhood's two and two-and-one-half story buildings are either three or four bays in width. Most are side gable rectangular forms, though the store and one dwelling have gable end front facades. All structures are of frame construction and set on either stone or concrete foundations. A variety of materials cover the dwellings, such as asbestos shingles, aluminum siding, and vinyl siding. Roofs are clad primarily with asphalt shingles. The houses set in close proximity to the road and to each other on narrow lots that extend from MD 36 to the Georges Creek.

In 1982, Harpersville was surveyed as a part of the Maryland Historical Trust's Coal Region Historic Sites Survey. Of the 14 buildings documented, all appear to remain extant. In the past two decades, the buildings have undergone alterations, such as the replacement of windows and doors.

Harpersville retains its historic location. Transportation, along with topography, shaped the design of the linear village. All the houses and the store are oriented with their front facades facing MD 36 and the railroad tracks. Harpersville's setting maintains a level of integrity, as the region has not experienced substantial development in the last fifty years. While several dwellings retain some visible historic materials, most have undergone alterations, such as replacement siding, altered fenestration materials, the enclosing of porches, the construction of additions, and, in one case, the conversion of the first story of a block house into a two car garage. The workmanship of most structures is characterized by simple construction methods and minimal architectural detail. While Harpersville does have some association with the coal industry, it was built just a short time prior to the industry's decline and therefore does not have a strong association with the coal industry. Harpersville lacks the historic integrity and variety of historic resources of nearby mining towns and villages. While Harpersville maintains a visual coherence due to the lack of modern intrusions, it does not possess qualities that distinguish it from other residential groupings in the area. Harpersville maintains the feeling of a small, 1920s community, but does not constitute a significant collection of early twentieth century architecture.

The Harpersville Survey District is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It is not known to be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (Criterion A). It is not significant for associations with the lives of persons significant in our past (Criterion B). The Harpersville Survey District does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction (Criterion C). The Harpersville Survey District is not being evaluated under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___A___B___C___D Considerations: ___A___B___C___D___E___F___G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

References

David Dorsey. Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, Harpersville Survey District AL-VI-B-279. The Maryland Historical Trust, 1982.

Ware, Donna M. Green Glades & Sooty Gob Piles: The Maryland Coal Region's Industrial and Architectural Past. Crownsville, MD: The Maryland Historical Trust, 1991.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

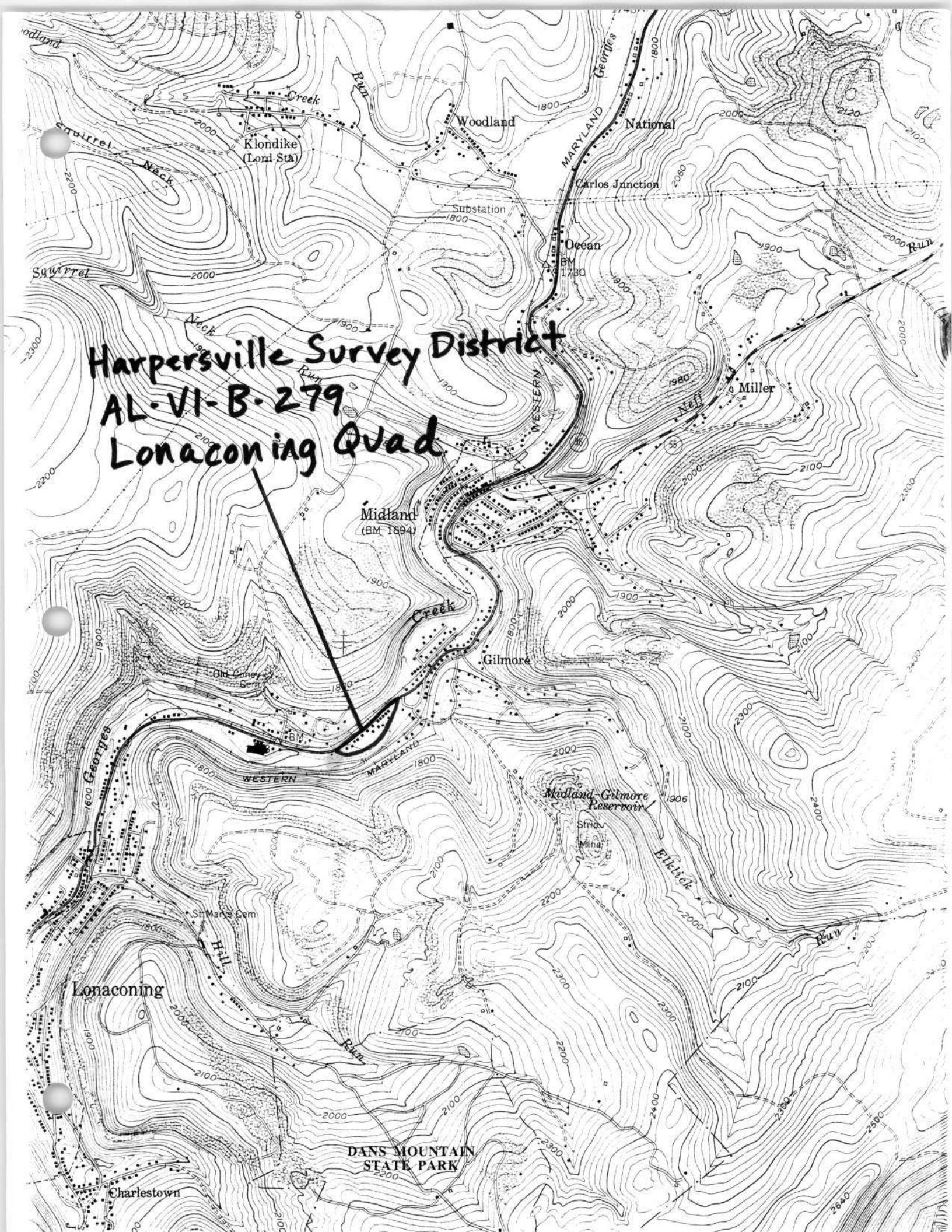
Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

Harpersville Survey District
AL-VI-B-279
Lonaconing Quad





AL-VI-C-212

Flowers "2" Survey District

Allegany County

Bearbeitet

June 3, 1914

AID SHPO

15508 Lower Georges Creek Road

2005 Q29 N N N N N-76 H5-01 60095 6000 079-14180-0



AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey District

Allegheny County

Becky Hermes

June 2004

ALV 52170

Photo of Lined Cascade of 12510 Lower
Georges Creek Rd



AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey District

Allegheny County

Becky Kemler

June 2004

MD STPO

Streetscape

Looking southwest on MD 36

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, likely a page number or identifier.



AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey District

Allegheny County

Becky Kermes

June 2004

MD SHPO

StreetScape

Looking northeast on MD 36 - looking towards

Gillmore



Harpersville Survey District

Albany County

Becky James

June 2001

MD 5470

Photo of 15512 Lower Georges Creek Rd

Feb 2



AL 11-5-217

Harpersville Survey District

Allegany County

Becky Kermes

June 2004

MD SHPO

Photo of Duplex 155/14 & 155/16 Lower range
at 1/2 road.



AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey District

Allegany County

Becky Kermes

June 2004

MD SHPO

Former General Store/Saloon

2 story

Front gable structure is 15520 A. The one story front gable structure is attached to the larger structure.

Lower Georges Creek Rd



AL-VI-B-219

Harpersville Survey District

Allegany County

Becky Kermes

June 2004

MS 15524

15524 & 15526 Lower Georges Creek Road

20040601 N N N+1-37 155101 50000 60000 119.17 100.00



AL-VI-B-219

Harpersville Survey District

Allegany County

Becky Reeves

June 2004

MD SHPO

15528 & 15530 Lower Georges Creek Road



AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey Dist

Allegany County

Becky Kermes

June 2004

MD SHPO

15536 Lava Georges Creek Rd





AL-VI-B-279
Harpersville Survey District
Allegheny County
Becky Kermes
June 2004
MD SHPO

15544 - 15546 Lower Georges Creek Road

AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey District
Knapps Meadow
Private

1910s

Harpersville Survey District consists of a row of houses on the southeastern side of MD Route 36 approximately one mile south of Midland. Most of the buildings of Harpersville are duplex frame dwellings.

Early in the second decade of the 20th century Mr. Tom Carr dismantled a tannery at Gilmore, less than a mile north of Harpersville, and used the salvaged material to construct a row of duplex "block" houses.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI #0112564738

SD

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Harpersville Survey District

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Md. Rt. 36, approximately 1 mile south of Midland

CITY, TOWN

Knapps Meadow

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY
Allegany County**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple ownership

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-VI-B-279

CONDITION☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Harpersville Survey District consists of a row of houses on the south-eastern side of Md. Rt. 36 approximately one mile south of Midland. C&P Railroad tracks and Georges Creek parallel the highway opposite the houses. The terrain of the survey district is flat.

Most of the buildings of Harpersville are duplex frame dwellings. The 2 story, 4 bay by 2 bay buildings have gabled roofs with 2 brick chimneys. Shed roofed porches shelter the facades and shed roofed additions abut the rear elevations. An example is House 8.

Other buildings within the district include typical vernacular-styled dwellings. The 2 story frame buildings are based on the ell plan and have gabled roofs. Wynn's store and saloon is a 1½ story, 4 bay by 2 bay frame building. The gambrel roofed structure has a large gabled dormer on its south western elevation.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Harpersville is a small village located in the center of the Georges Creek coal region of western Maryland. The town is named for Mr. Bill Harper who built a frame house at the northern end of the village in 1909. Early in the second decade of the 20th century Mr. Tom Carr dismantled a tannery at Gilmore, less than a mile north of Harpersville, and used the salvaged material to construct a row of duplex "block" houses. Mr. Bill Wynn established a store/saloon business in Harpersville circa 1920.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mrs. Anna McAlpine, Knapps Meadows, 8/17/81.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

May 1982

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle, Shaw House

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

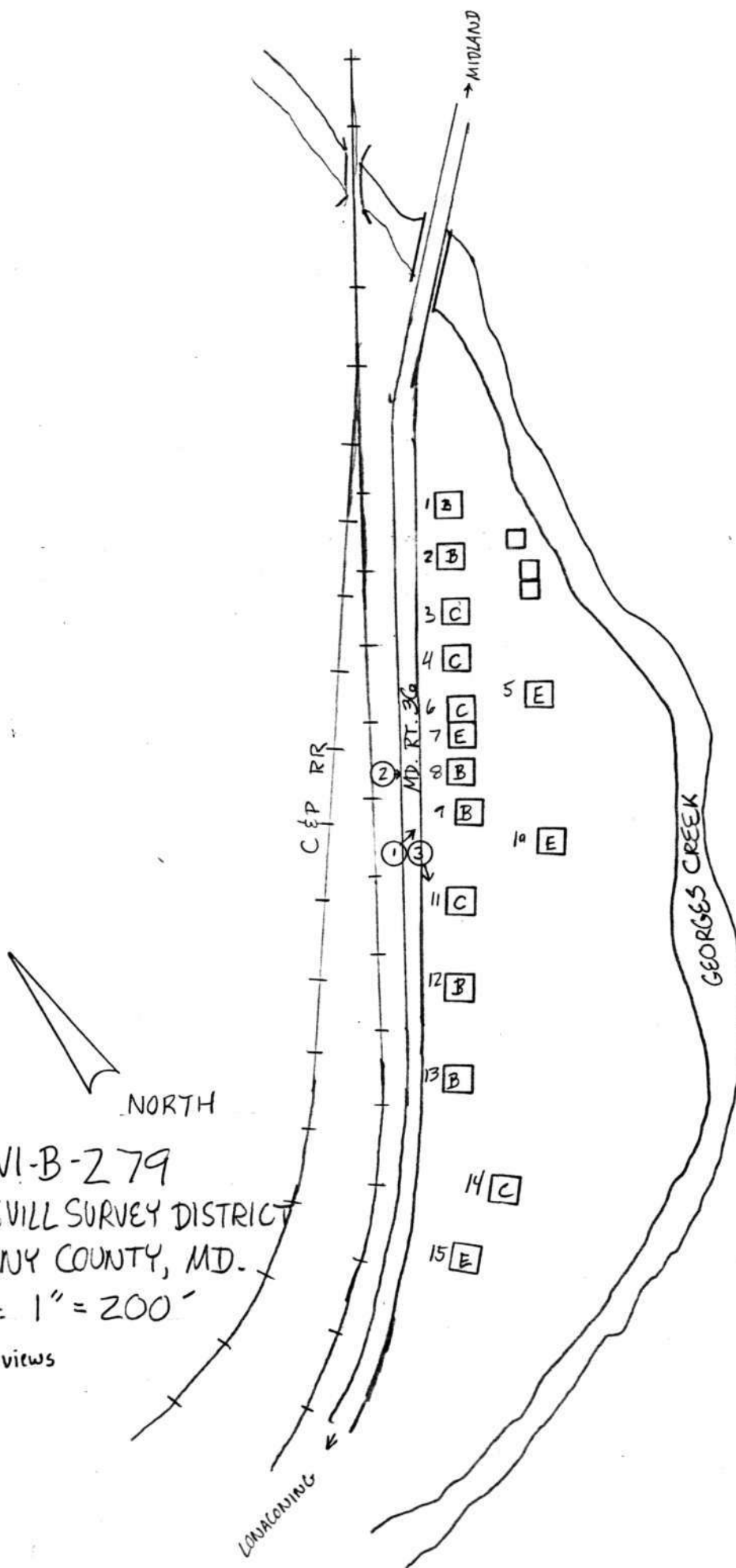
Maryland 21401

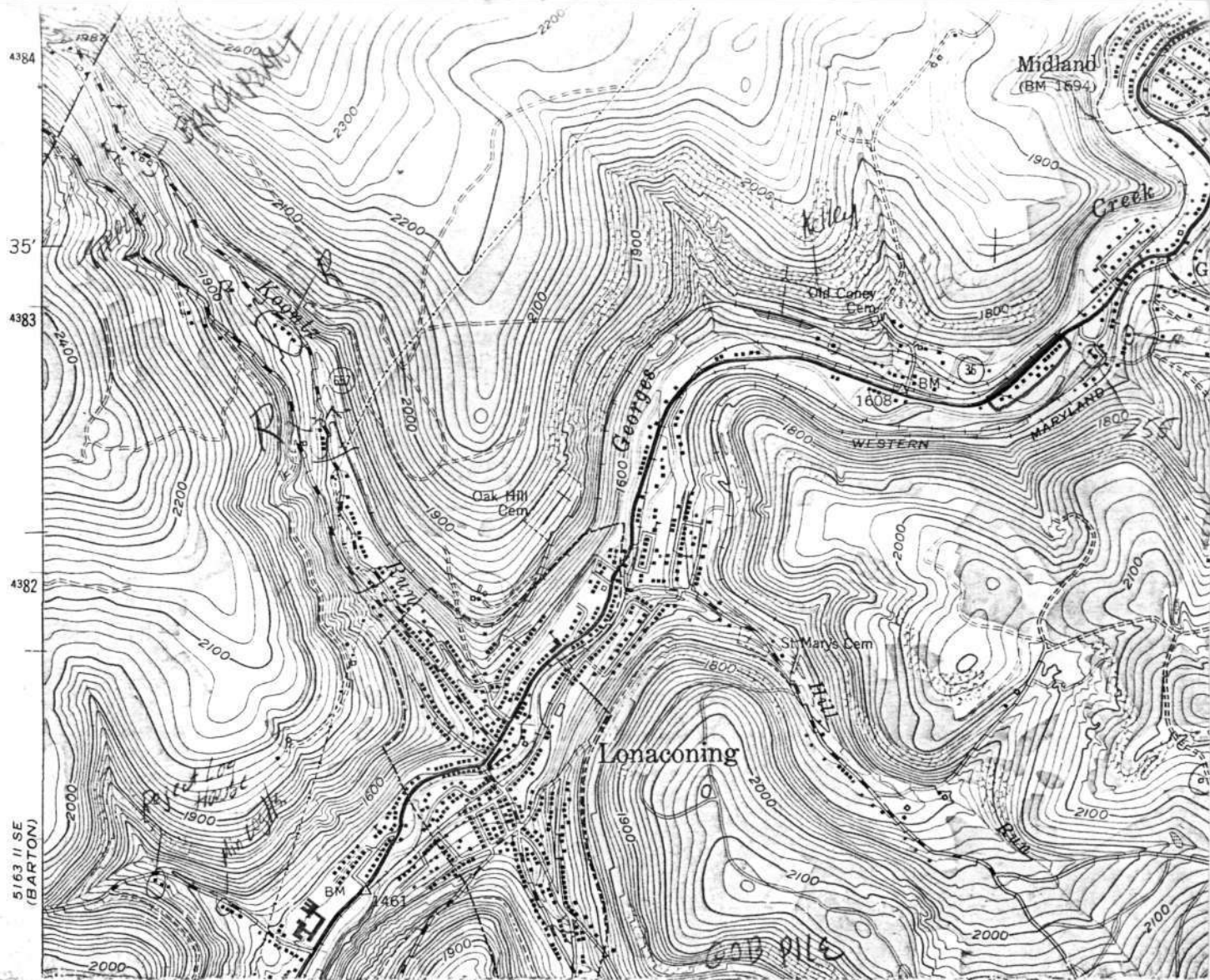
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

○ → photo views





Lonaconing, MD:WV
USGS 7.5 Minute Series
Scale 1:24,000
1950; photorevised 1974

AL-VI-B-279
Harpersville Survey District
MD Route 36, 1 mile south of
Midland



1
AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey District

Allegany Co., MD

David A. Dorsey 8/81

photo #1 houses 7 & 8 (east)



2

AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey District

Allegany Co., MD

David A. Dorsey 8/81

#2, house 8, lookin SE



3
AL-VI-B-279

Harpersville Survey District

Allegany Co., MD

David A. Dorsey 8/81

photo #3, house 11 & 15 (SW)